

CONSERVATION

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The conservation commission has received the semi-annual payment of our share of the proceeds of the sale of the cranberries from the town bog, in the amount of \$2,344.

A modest logging operation is proposed by the Town Forest Committee and the commission under the direction of the district forester from the Dept. of Natural Resources. It is proposed that a 5-acre tract on the King Phillips Path, Union St. parcel be selectively lumbered. It is necessary that these woods be harvested before the white pine ages too far, and falls uselessly, allowing less desirable growth to take over. The problem is that logging tends to be viewed as destructive rather than a conservation measure. The fact is

that these woods are "cultivated" for their pine and it is time they were harvested like any other crop. With selective cutting it is hoped that the townspeople will see what can be done and that the scars will heal easily when the right methods are used. There will be a small profit to the town. If a proper bidder does not present himself the forest committee then hopes to take on the job with town employees during the winter.

The commission finds itself much involved with planned development. It has become increasingly obvious that to do it the way it was envisioned the developers are going to have to put a lot more planning and thought into complying with the spirit of the bylaw. While they gain from the density they have been reluctant to yield in the matters relative to protection of the environment in the years that follow the completion of their developments. Many seem to feel that compliance with the provisions of the bylaw exempt them from compliance with state laws and the local wetland code. The commission will not yield in these matters.